

## COUNTER STROKE GAINS

**French Continued to Shove Back the Germans North of Caillette Wood in Several Engagements During the Night, French War Office Reports**

**GERMAN OFFENSIVE HAS LOST IMPETUS**

**South of Douaumont, a German Attack Was Hurdled Back, and the German Lines Were Driven in Disorder Toward Chaufour Wood—West of the Meuse It Was Quiet**

Paris, April 5.—The French gained ground north of Caillette wood, northeast of Verdun, in the course of several engagements during the night, the war office announced this afternoon. West of the Meuse there were no events of importance. Twenty mines which had been thrown into the Meuse at St. Mihiel by the Germans were exploded by the French with no damage.

The French official statement last night told of the repulse of a powerful German attack against the first lines of the French south of Douaumont. The statement reads as follows:

"North of the Aisne and in the Argonne our batteries effectively shelled the enemy organizations.

"West of the Meuse an enemy attack on the village of Hancourt completely failed.

"East of the Meuse during the course of the day the bombardment was resumed with great violence between Douaumont and Vaux. The Germans launched a very powerful attack against our first lines about 300 metres south of the village of Douaumont. The successive waves of the assault, which were followed by small attacking columns, were swept down by our curtain of fire, and the fire of our machine guns and infantry forced to retreat in disorder in the direction of the Bois Chaufour, where our artillery, concentrating its fire, inflicted considerable losses on the enemy.

"North of the Caillette wood, our troops continued to progress in the course of the day.

"In the Voivre there was an artillery duel in the sectors at the foot of the Meuse hills.

"In the Vosges, after a spirited bombardment of our positions southeast of Seppois, the Germans attempted to reach our trenches, but were driven back to their own lines by our barrier fire."

### DISABLE GERMAN WARSHIP.

**Was Towed in After Heavy Cannonading Had Been Heard.**

Copenhagen, April 4, via London, April 5.—A naval engagement of some kind took place Monday in the Kattegat, according to dispatches received here from Kullen, Sweden.

About noon, the dispatches say, a terrific cannonade was heard from the sea and two hours later a German torpedo boat, badly damaged, was towed past Helsingborg.

### ITALY HAS NEW WAR MINISTER

**General Morone Appointed to Succeed General Zupelli, Who is Said to Desire Active Participation in War.**

London, April 5.—A Stegani dispatch from Rome says that King Victor Emmanuel has accepted the resignation of War Minister Zupelli and has appointed General Morone to succeed him. It is stated that General Zupelli desired to participate in active operations. He was appointed minister of war in October, 1914.

### BRITISH PAYING CHEERFULLY

**Are Meeting Special War Taxes Well, Says McKenna.**

London, April 5.—Faced by the problem of financing for another year a war costing Great Britain £5,000,000 daily, the chancellor of the exchequer, Reginald McKenna, was met at the outset by two favorable circumstances, namely, that owing to the expansive power of British trade, the revenue for the year exceeded the estimated revenue by £32,000,000, while the year's expenditure had been £31,000,000 below the estimate.

By imposing new taxes on amusements, railway tickets, matches and mineral waters, and raising a number of the old taxes, including those on excess war profits, incomes, sugar, cocoa, coffee and motor cars, the chancellor estimates that he will be able to raise about £25,000,000, which is nearly double what many persons believed he could raise by this means.

At the close of an able and lucid speech in the House of Commons yesterday, explaining the greatest budget in

the world's history, the chancellor made an interesting comparison with German finance, declaring that while Great Britain was raising more than £500,000,000 annually by taxation, the secretary of the German imperial treasury, Dr. Helfferich, was announcing a "doubtful increase" of £24,000,000.

Explaining his financial methods, Mr. McKenna indicated his desire to avoid anything requiring new machinery for its collection, which would prove costly and wasteful. Equally he desired to distribute the necessary burdens fairly over the whole community. He said he was aware of no historical parallel in other countries for the willingness displayed by the people of Great Britain to submit cheerfully to the tax gatherer's exactions, but it would be a mistake, he added, to drive this spirit of public sacrifice too hard.

### ACCUSED OF AUTO THEFT.

**George E. Glasser Arrested in Burlington Last Night.**

Burlington, April 5.—George E. Glasser, who claimed to have been held up on Shelburne road last fall, when a good sized wad of money was taken from his pocketbook, jumped into the police limelight again late last night, when he was arrested on a warrant made out by State's Attorney Theodore E. Hopkins, charging him with the theft of a Cole car, which he has been offering for sale in this city. The car in question was stolen from Buffalo, N. Y., last November and certain evidence tends to prove that it is the one now in possession of Glasser. Glasser, however, claims that he bought the car in regular manner and paid for it. He also claims that he has papers of sale and insurance papers which will prove it.

Yesterday afternoon Glasser was in this city with the car, but took it to Vergennes and later returned without it. He was arrested at the Walker block last night. He was held without bail by the police department over night and to-day an officer will be sent to Vergennes with him and the car will be brought back to this city.

On the 23d of last October Glasser went to the police office with a story of having been held up on Shelburne road by two men, who after they had forced him to stop his car, went through his clothes and took \$72 in cash. The police investigated the case and found the man's coat, wallet and a robe on Shelburne road, the wallet being empty. The highwaymen never attempted a like hold-up afterward. It is understood that Glasser has been dealing in second-hand cars.

### TO HELP SMALL CHURCH.

**Baptist State Convention Trustees Appropriate Large Amounts.**

Rutland, April 5.—The trustees of the Vermont Baptist state convention met at the Hotel Rutland here yesterday for their semi-annual session and voted increases in appropriations to some of the smaller churches which are badly in need of financial assistance. The Vergennes church gets \$100 increase, Panton \$50, Guilford \$25. It was voted to give the West Charleston church \$100 from the Ripley fund.

Rev. Dr. W. A. Davison of Burlington, superintendent of the convention, was elected an agent for the Sutton church property and to deed property at Newport Center to the church.

It was voted to join the Congregationalists and Methodists in support of an evangelist to work in all of the small towns of Vermont. The trustees elected ex-Gov. and Mrs. W. W. Stickney of Lowell, Col. and Mrs. S. A. Isley of Middlebury, Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Dickerson of Bristol, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bond of Chester, Dr. H. D. Holton of Brattleboro and Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Davison delegates to the northern Baptist convention, which meets at Minneapolis May 17 to 25.

### DEATH OF GEORGE F. SWASEY.

**Native of Bethlehem, N. H., Had Lived in Montpelier Seven Years.**

George F. Swasey, a native of Bethlehem, N. H., and a resident of Montpelier for seven years, died at his home, 143 Main street, in that city this morning after being ill since last July with Bright's disease. Funeral services will be held to-morrow morning, and the body will be taken to Miller's Falls, Mass., where the funeral will be held and the body will be buried.

Mr. Swasey would have been 58 years of age next May. He was the son of George and Adelia Swasey of Bethlehem, and his early life was spent in that town. For many years he was engaged in the lumbering and contracting business in Maine, being located in Portland and Brunswick, as well as in Boston. Seven years ago he moved to Montpelier to become a salesman for the Lane Manufacturing company. He was a member of the Elks lodge and the Congregational church in Montpelier.

He was twice married and is survived by his second wife and by a son, George A. Swasey of Boston, the child of his first wife. A son born to the second wife died at the age of eight years. He also leaves two sisters, Mrs. P. O. Burnham of Boston and Mrs. E. M. Partridge of Miller's Falls, Mass. His wife and son will accompany the remains to the last-named place to-morrow.

### NEW \$50,000 SCHOOL.

**Voted at Richford, to Be Paid for by Bonds and Loans.**

Richford, April 5.—At a special town meeting yesterday afternoon it was voted to authorize the erection of a new schoolhouse, the expenditure not to exceed \$50,000. A special tax of 25 cents on the dollar of the grant will be levied, the balance to be provided for by temporary loans until the next session of the legislature when authority will be asked for issuing bonds to retire such loans.

### SHELL INQUIRY REFUSED.

Ottawa, Ont., April 5.—The demand of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, opposition leader, for investigation by parliamentary committee of all purchases and contracts of the Canadian shell commission, was voted down in the House of Commons last night.

The government's majority was reduced to 38, four of its followers voting with the Laurier forces and a number absenting themselves from the division.

## PEACE FEELER IS ADVANCED BY GERMANY

**Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg Asserted in the Reichstag That Any Suggestions of Peace Which Included Destruction of Prussian Military Power Would Mean the Sword**

**DECLARES ALLIES ARE KEEPING UP THE WAR**

**Chancellor Also Protested Vigorously Against the Assertion That Germany Has Any Designs on the United States or on Canada**

Berlin, by wireless, April 5.—Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg protested vigorously in the Reichstag to-day against the report that Germany now or in the future contemplated aggression against the United States.

The chancellor said: "The latest offspring of a calumniating campaign directed against us is the report that we shall attempt to conquer Canada. This is the silliest of all imputations invented against us."

"Equally silly are the reports we contemplate acquisition of any territory on American soil or in Brazil or in any American country whatsoever. We fight for our existence and our future. For Germany and not for space in a foreign country are German's sons bleeding and dying."

Von Bethmann-Hollweg indicated in his speech that any suggestions of peace on a basis of the destruction of the Prussian military power would make possible only one answer—the German sword. He stated that if Germany's adversaries desired to continue the slaughter of men and the devastation of Europe the guilt will be theirs and Germany would have to stand it as men.

### DUTCH SHIP TORPEDOED IN NORTH SEA

**Official Statement Made at the Hague Tells of Disaster to the Schooner Eilshina Helfa—Other Submarine Victims Reported.**

The Hague, Holland, April 5.—It is officially announced that the Dutch schooner Eilshina Helfa was torpedoed yesterday in the North sea. The crew were brought to Noorhinder.

London, April 5.—The Spanish steamship Vigo of 1,100 tons has been sunk in the Bay of Biscay by a German submarine, according to Lloyd's. The crew took to a small boat and were later picked up by the British steamship Polo and taken to Gibraltar. Lloyd's also reports the sinking of the British steamship Rendew with the loss of one of the crew.

The crew of the Norwegian steamship Arena of 1,000 tons have been taken to Ymuiden by the trawler Clare. A Reuter dispatch from Ymuiden says the Arena was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine.

### HOLLAND PREPARED TO MAINTAIN HER NEUTRALITY

**Recall of Men to the Army Was Caused by Information Which Had Caused Uneasiness for the Government.**

The Hague, April 4, via London, April 5.—At the opening of the second chamber of the Dutch Parliament to-day, after a preliminary secret session in committee, the president of the chamber read a brief statement declaring that the recent suspension of furloughs of army officers and men was a precautionary measure, as Holland is firmly resolved to maintain her neutrality and there is a possibility of its incurring increased danger owing to the course of the war.

The suspension order, he added, was not in consequence of present political entanglements but was decided upon on account of certain information which had reached the government and which the government does not judge opportune to make public at the present moment.

### ALLEGED TO BE A THIEF.

Wilmington Man Arrested and Held for Hearing.

Brattleboro, April 5.—State's Attorney O. B. Hughes was informed yesterday by Deputy Sheriff Walter E. Howe of Wilmington of the arrest of Tony Alavero in that town on the charge of breaking and entering the general store of Orrin O. Ware, a Wilmington merchant.

### FIGHT PRECEDED SHOOTING.

**Sons of Charles Leighton Told of Fracas at Sharon.**

Woodstock, April 5.—In the Leighton murder case, Newell C. Leighton, 19, son of Charles Leighton, who is now on trial for killing A. C. Gibson, was put on the stand for the defense. His evidence tended to show that when he learned that some men and teams had gone up into their sugar lot he went there also and found men loading logs. When he ordered them away they persisted in loading the logs and told him he did not own them and that the Leightons stole them from O'Donnell. When the witness kicked the skids away from the sled, Fred Spaulding hit him on the shoulder with a cant hook. Newell grabbed the cant hook out of his hands and they had a clinch. Finally Newell was struck with a cant hook on the back by Wheeler, and it helped knock him over. The two rolled over and Newell got to his feet. Then Wheeler grabbed him by the collar and pulled him down. Spaulding got on top of him and Wheeler kicked him in the nose and in the mouth, so that they bled. Newell showed the scar on his nose to the jury.

They ordered Newell off the premises and he went, but said he would return. He went to the house and got his rifle, came back and told them to stop loading. They did not stop and he told them if they did not stop he would shoot. Then he discharged his gun with the muzzle pointed over and Newell immediately that Mr. Gibson appeared. About half an hour later Newell's father came and met Mr. Congdon. His father told Congdon to unload the logs, and he refused. Then standing face to face with Congdon he said:

"You unload those logs or I'll knock your head off."

At his father's direction Newell then unloaded the logs. His father then said: "We'll go up into the woods and get the rest of them."

On the way up Newell told his father and his brother Walter, what had happened and his father took the gun from him. When they got there Gibson, Fred and Solon Spaulding and Will Morse were sliding logs down the hill, and two teams were loaded with bass-wood logs cut on his father's farm.

Newell heard his father tell Gibson to get off his premises and unload the logs. They were all running for his father and had cant hooks. Solon Spaulding struck Newell with a cant hook and Newell struck him with a stick, which he called a pry. Fred then came with a cant hook and Newell struck it out of his hands. He ran and Newell after him and got him by the collar. They were stopped by running into a tree. While running around the tree Newell heard a shot, looked around and saw Gibson sink to the ground. There was no more fighting after that.

Walter, the older son, 21, gave some testimony, but because so affected he could hardly talk and had to stop. He was allowed to retire without finishing. Mrs. Leighton was called and told of Newell coming to the house with his face all blood and nose disfigured and getting his gun. She then sent Wallace, 12 years old, for the father and Walter. She had told Newell of the teams up in the sugar lot, which led him to go up there.

### NO OBJECTIONS RAISED.

**To Railroad Siding Desired by Boutwell, Milne & Varnum.**

Two of Vermont's public service commissioners met in the court room at city hall Tuesday afternoon to conduct a hearing on the petition of the Barre & Chelsea railroad for the right to lay a side track from its air line to the corner of one of the Boutwell, Milne & Varnum quarries in upper Graniteville. Chairman Robert C. Bacon was not present at the hearing, but W. R. Warner of Vergennes and W. A. Dutton took part in the brief proceedings. They were accompanied by their clerk. State's Attorney F. E. Gleason appeared for the state and Mayor James M. Boutwell of Montpelier represented Boutwell, Milne & Varnum. Harry C. Shurtleff of Montpelier appeared for the railroad.

While the commissioners were picking up their papers preparatory to departing, City Attorney William Wishart and Aldermen Rossi and Bruce of the street committee appeared for a conference on the proposal to establish gates at the South Main street crossing of the Barre & Chelsea railroad. The officials intimated that similar requests might be made with respect to crossings at Prospect and Granite streets. After hearing the representatives of the city, the commission suggested that it would be well to reduce the request to writing and present it to the railroad officials, reserving the privilege to appeal to the commission for a hearing if the request is not granted. It is understood that the street committee has forwarded a written request to the railroad.

### OVER MILLION IN FUND

**For Permanent Endowment of Vermont's Public Schools.**

The trustees of the Vermont permanent school fund met at Montpelier yesterday and organized by electing John L. Southwick of Burlington as chairman and F. A. Howland of Montpelier as secretary.

The permanent school funds of Vermont can only be invested in U. S. government bonds, state bonds and bonds of cities and schools located in the United States having a population of 20,000 or over.

The state funds are now invested in bonds of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Pa., Baltimore, Md., Minneapolis, Minn., Springfield, Mass., Jersey City, N. J., New Bedford, Mass., Wilmington, Del., Burlington and of the states of New York and Massachusetts.

The total permanent fund now amounts to \$1,182,000, representing U. S. bonds of \$609,086.74; Arkansas Huntington funds of \$211,131.46; Civil war fund of \$240,000; moneys accumulated by acts of the state legislature.

## MUST HAVE USE OF RAILROADS

**Or Villa Will Get Away, Say United States Officials**

**URGENT REQUEST TO CARRANZA**

**That He Order His Commanders to Permit the Shipment of Supplies**

Washington, D. C., April 5.—The latest developments in the Mexican situation convinced the administration officials to-day that success for the American expedition now largely depends upon the immediate completion of arrangements for the use of the Mexican railways. The officials were awaiting the reply to renewed representations sent to Carranza asking the de facto government immediately to fulfill its promise to permit the commercial shipment of supplies to Pershing's forces by giving specific orders to General Gaviro at Juarez and other Mexican commanders in Chihuahua.

The war department to-day authorized the purchase of 108 more motor trucks and two gasoline tanks for the Mexican expedition.

General Funston sent no further details to-day of the latest engagement of the American troops with Villa forces near Aguas Calientes.

### 40 MEXICAN CASUALTIES IN NEW CLASH

**Col. W. C. Brown's Squadron of 10th Cavalry Is Reported to Have Come Up with Group of Villa Bandits Driven from Guerrero.**

San Antonio, Tex., April 5.—Surprised during their sista, one of the groups of Villa's forces driven from Guerrero was defeated Saturday by a squadron of the 10th cavalry under Col. W. C. Brown, according to information obtained by General Pershing and forwarded by him to General Funston yesterday.

In this engagement, the second the American troops have had with Villa's men, the bandits' loss was estimated at from 30 to 40 killed. No mention of American loss was made.

Colonel Brown's encounter with the Mexicans had not been reported to General Pershing when he made his report to General Funston, his information having been gained from friendly Mexicans who arrived at a point near Rubio, where Major Evans of the 10th cavalry halted Monday. Major Evans reported that Saturday Colonel Brown had encountered a band of Villa's men and was pursuing them through San Antonio, Chihuahua. Soon afterward, Mexicans who arrived from that vicinity declared he had overtaken the wandering bandits at the village of Aguas Calientes, 20 miles south of Aguas de Bachinua.

Villa's men, according to their version of the encounter, appeared wholly unsuspecting of the presence of an enemy a minute before they were attacked.

It was about noon when Colonel Brown brought his cavalry within easy range. The Mexicans were lying about the place, many of them asleep and all their horses were grazing. In many cases some distance from the men. Details of the action were not told, but the Mexicans said that besides those killed the Americans captured an equal number of horses.

General Pershing added that his reports of the engagement backed confirmation, though his credence of the news was indicated by the fact that he transmitted it to General Funston.

The encounter aroused deep interest at General Funston's headquarters, where additional details were awaited eagerly, but it was realized by officers that the effect of Colonel Brown's fight and of other minor engagements that may occur is only indirect, so far as the greater problem of catching Villa is concerned. Engagements of that character it was said, may be expected from now, from time to time, and the running down of the marauding bands is essential to the safety of the American column, but it was indicated the only effects so far as Villa is concerned will be to destroy the morale of his supporting force.

### MEXICAN ATTACK ON PARRAS BEATEN

**Villa Band Is Reported to Have Lost 42 Men Killed, Quantity of Arms and a Number of Horses.**

Torreon, Mex., April 5.—A Villa band under Simon Reyes and Chacon lost 42 killed in an attempt to surprise the garrison in the mining town of Parras, several miles east of here, last Saturday. The garrison under Colonel J. M. Gonzales drove off the bandits and captured a quantity of arms and a number of horses.

### TRAIN HIT FARMER'S TEAM.

**Horse Killed and Peter McDuff Was Injured.**

St. Johnsbury, April 5.—Peter McDuff, a farmer, was injured yesterday when his team was struck by a freight engine. The accident happened on the crossing at St. Johnsbury Center depot. A brook running near the road made so much noise that McDuff did not hear the approaching train. The horse was killed and McDuff was thrown several feet to a side track. His back and hip were injured but not dangerously.

### WAS MUCH WRANGLING

**Among Attorneys—Incidentally, Mrs. Eleanor Saia Was Tried.**

Heated wrangling, often involving personalities, between attorneys marked the city court proceedings this forenoon when the case of State vs. Mrs. Eleanor Saia of 1 Bugbee avenue, charged with keeping liquor with intent to sell, came to trial before a jury. Grand Juror William Wishart conducted the prosecution and the respondent was represented by R. A. Hoar and A. G. Fay. At noon the defense had completed its closing arguments when Magistrate H. W. Scott adjourned the case until 1:30 o'clock. This afternoon the prosecutor began his summing up and after that the judge gave his charge to the jury.

Proceedings against the Saia woman are the outgrowth of a raid conducted by the police at her premises two weeks ago. Matt Matson, the first witness for the defense, testified in broken English to calling at the Saia house daily for swill. Questioned by the grand juror, witness denied drinking any swill given to him by the respondent. Emil Matson, son of the previous witness, told of waiting for his father while the latter went after swill. He had smelled whiskey in his father's breath soon after he returned from somewhere back of the Bugbee avenue tenement. Charles Grayce said he was employed by a local ice dealer in the latter months of 1915, that he called one day at Mrs. Saia's house and found the ice chest full. Mrs. Saia told him, he testified, that she had designated Grayce as a "stingy ice man," when his employer called at her house the day previous, whereupon the employer filled the chest to capacity, drank a bottle of beer and took only 10 cents for the ice. Grayce further testified that he didn't believe the man mentioned by Mrs. Saia in their conversation was his employer.

Chief Sinclair testified concerning the raid and then Mrs. Saia took the stand in her own defense, testifying through an interpreter. Receipts for rent, electric lights, etc., were introduced to show that Mrs. Saia's brother was at the head of the house.

The jury consisted of W. H. Connor, L. R. Rickett, W. H. Olliver, Peter D. Thom, George F. Howe, G. I. Beckley, George H. Hoyt, E. M. Lyon, John Rowley, Hugh Boyce, W. W. Parry and F. E. Cave.

### PHYSICIANS TESTIFIED

**In Defense of Insurance Company Sued to Recover on Policy.**

The defense in the case of Jennie L. Jones vs. Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, being tried in county court, has, in an endeavor to establish proof that the late Mrs. M. Jones was for many years a sufferer from indigestion, constipation and ulcers of the stomach, placed a number of physicians on the stand. Dr. A. B. Warren of Warren and Dr. John B. Wheeler of Burlington were witnesses this forenoon. The former examined the condition of Mr. Jones' stomach following his death and concluded as the result of the examination that death was due to cancer of the stomach. The disease might have originated within a year of the man's demise, admitted Dr. Warren, on cross-examination.

Dr. Wheeler told of performing an operation upon Mr. Jones a month preceding his death and from observations concluded that he was suffering from cancer of the stomach.

It was shown yesterday that Mr. Jones was treated for occasional attacks of indigestion during which he suffered considerable pain, and the plaintiff's forenoon drew from the witnesses the acknowledgment that an attack of indigestion or constipation did not necessarily indicate that the afflicted was suffering from ulcer of the stomach or cancer. In response to a question from Judge Butler, Dr. Wheeler said that indigestion and constipation were symptoms of disease rather than diseases in themselves. It is evident from the line of questioning pursued by the attorney for the plaintiff that it is the intention to show that Mr. Jones was stricken with his fatal illness after he had taken out the \$5,000 policy in the insurance company, rather than before, although it is admitted he had been under physicians' care prior to that time.

Mrs. Jones was on the stand during the latter part of the afternoon and for a short time this forenoon.

### NEW CASES IN COURT.

Two new cases were entered to-day on the docket, Vermont Real Estate Agency vs. John H. Kelley, book account, S. H. Kelley for the plaintiff, A. A. Sargent for the defendant, L. C. and M. E. Jones vs. Eaton Heath, M. M. Wilson for the plaintiffs.

### TWO LODGES ATTENDED.

**Funeral of Ola Ingermanson and Two Funeral Services Were Used.**

The funeral of Ola Ingermanson, whose death occurred at the home of Mrs. Oscar Bergh, 319 North Main street Monday morning after an illness of several months, was held at the house Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. J. Bjork, the retiring pastor of the Swedish Baptist mission, officiating. Members of Hiawatha lodge, I. O. O. F., and the Swedish Order of Vasa were in attendance and the bearers were: Judge H. W. Scott, Fred Beckley, Peter Johnson and H. Olin. The services of the Odd Fellows were used at the house and the Vasa committee service was read at the graveside in Hope cemetery. There were many floral tributes.

### TOOK SECRET BALLOT.

**Quincy Manufacturers Acted On Term of Proposed Agreement.**

Last evening's Quincy, Mass., Patriot had the following:

"A secret ballot was taken at the meeting of the Granite Manufacturers' association Monday evening on a four or five year term of settlement of the present difficulty in the granite industry in Quincy."

"It has been currently reported that some of the members favored a four-year agreement and others were standing out for five years. In order that the question might be settled and members express their preference in private a secret ballot was taken."

"Just what the result of the ballot was is not to be made public. The ballot was turned over to the strike committee, which will canvass it and its action at future conferences with the cutters will be based on this vote."

"It is probable that a conference between the manufacturers and cutters will be arranged for at an early date."

## WATER MAINS INADEQUATE

**Branch Lines Do Not Protect Several Stone Sections of the City**

**TESTS DEVELOPED MARK WEAKNESS**

**Not Pressure Enough for One Standard-Size Stream at Batchelder's Meadow**

A woeful lack of pressure and other alleged deficiencies in fire preparedness developing in tests to which the city system was put by expert engineers from the New England Insurance Exchange yesterday brought about a special meeting of the city council last night. Gathered around the board at the council chamber with the city fathers were Fire Chief C. B. Gladding, his first assistant engineer, E. M. Tobin, Supt. F. O. Lee of the water department and several granite manufacturers. If the demonstrations in three stoned districts in the afternoon didn't convince the powers that be that there is something wrong with the fire protection system after all, the remarks made by J. S. Caldwell and his assistant, J. F. Driscoll, the Boston engineers, did the trick.

What wasn't revealed when perfectly good connections with a hydrant at Barclay Bros' plant in the south end were spilling insignificant pints and quarts where the taxpayers were looking for gallons came out when the councilors began to quiz the suave engineers from the exchange. The tests, it may be mentioned, were the outcome of the conference yesterday between the granite manufacturers and the insurance people, in which the former submitted their reasons for demanding lower fire insurance rates. Both the water department and the fire department were represented at the conference in the forenoon and when the insurance men asked permission to test the water pressure, hydrants, etc., the request was gladly granted.

In the afternoon the auto fire truck, manned by regulars and call men, was driven first to the Willey street meadow, then to Jones Bros' plant and finally to Batchelder's meadow. Engineer Caldwell and Mr. Driscoll took along their gauges and in the presence of many onlookers the tests were made. It cannot be said that the tests in any instance were satisfactory.

So it happened that the council convened